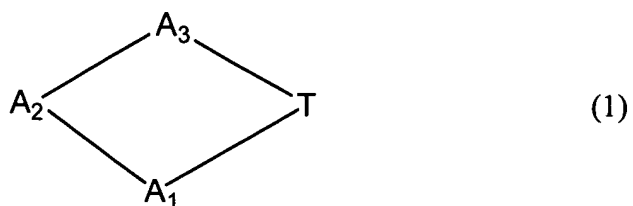


CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-33 (canceled)

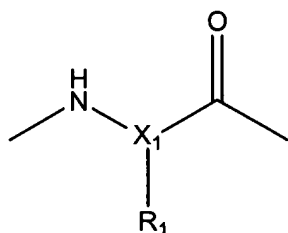
Claim 34 (currently amended): A macrocyclic compound of the formula (1):



and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts,

wherein

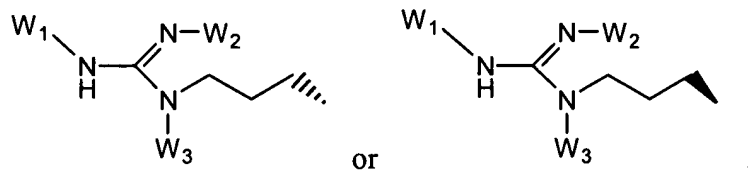
A₁ is:



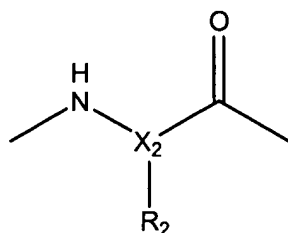
wherein

X₁ is -CH-, and

R₁ is



A₂ is:

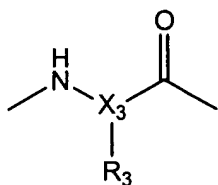


wherein

X₂ is -CH-, and

R_2 is H;

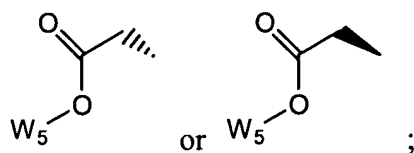
A_3 is:



wherein

X_3 is -CH-, and

R_3 is

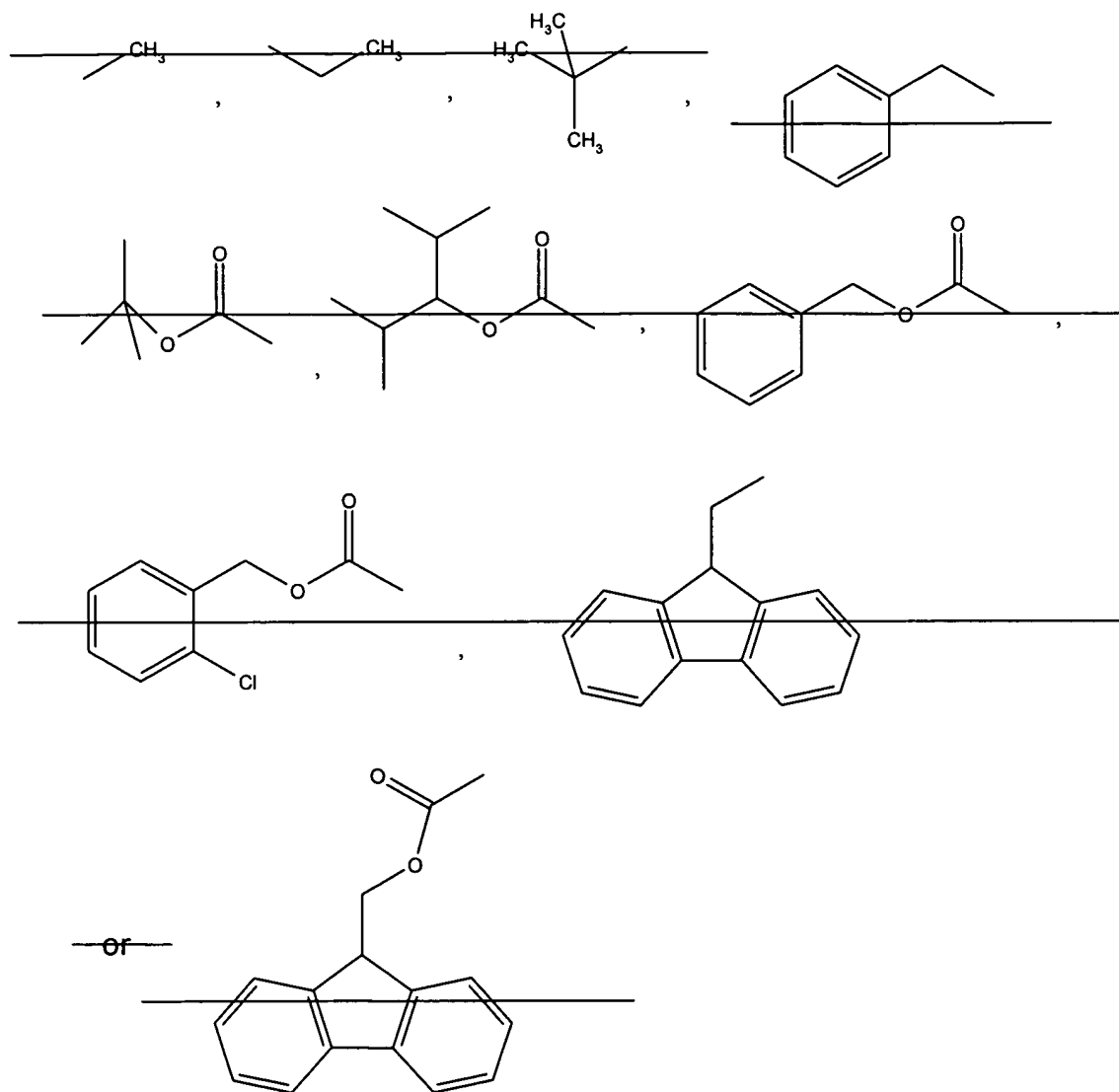


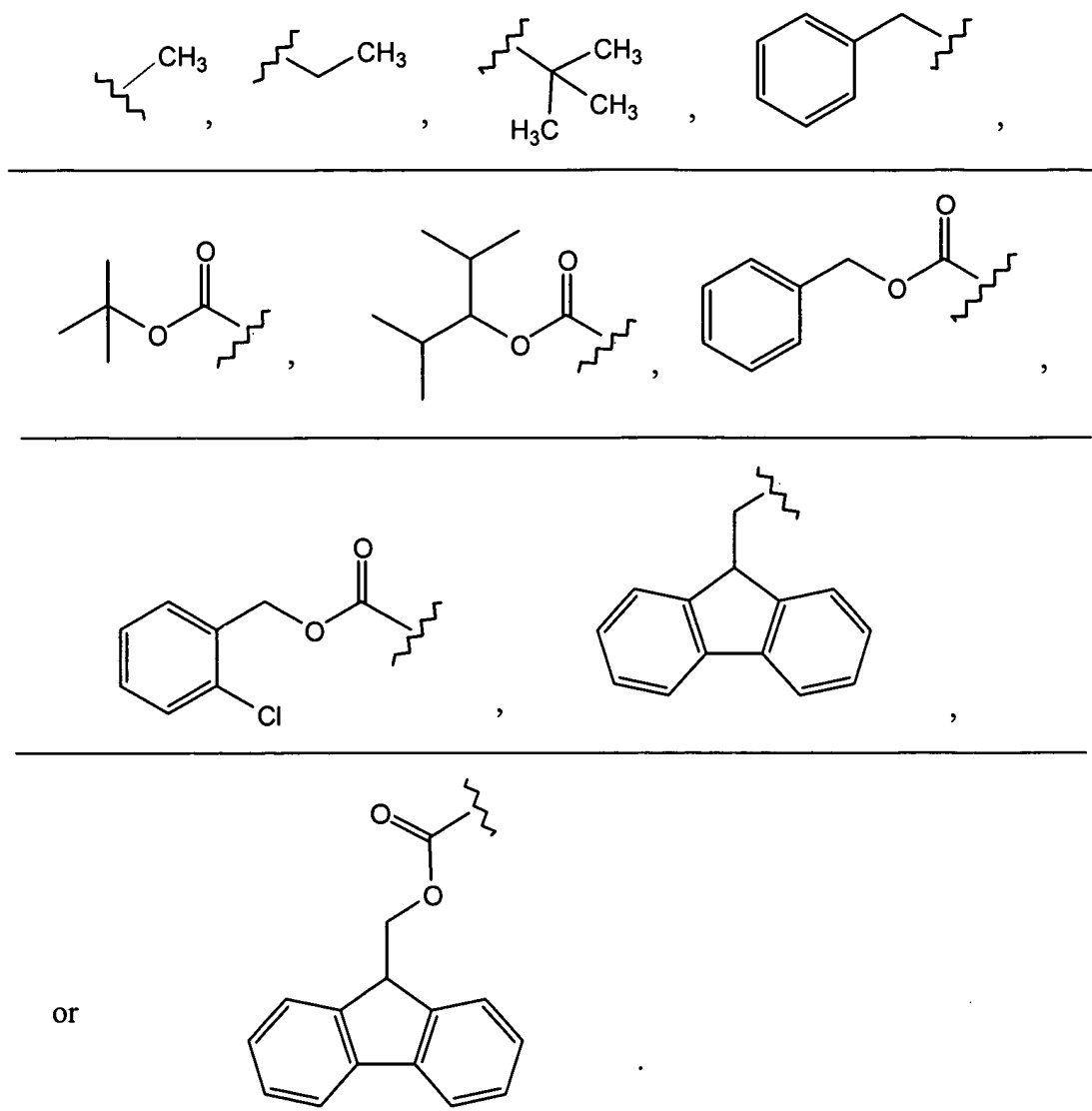
W_1 , W_2 , W_3 , and W_5 are each selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and protecting groups used for orthogonal protection in peptide synthesis;

wherein the carbonyl carbon of A_1 is covalently bonded to the nitrogen atom of A_2 , and the carbonyl carbon of A_2 is covalently bonded to the nitrogen atom of A_3 ;

~~Fragment~~ T is a radical selected from the group consisting of:

Claim 35 (currently amended): A macrocyclic compound of the formula (1) as defined in claim 34, wherein W_1 , W_2 , W_3 , and W_5 are each selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and a compatible protecting group chosen from:





Claim 36 (previously presented): A macrocyclic compound of the formula (1) as defined in claim 34, wherein W₁, W₂, W₃, and W₅ each represents hydrogen.